

Here and There

THE OTHER DAY Martha Harris wrote the word PENNANTS on the blackboard when Dalton Hathcock helpfully corrected her. "Martha, you spelled PEANUTS wrong."

A FAMILIAR SIGHT and sound around here is genial, long-legged Robert Shaver. Last week he commented in one of his more serious moods:

"I wish a talent scout would hurry and discover me so I wouldn't have to go to college."

BILL HUCKABEE TO T-Boe McLendon: "I've finally figured out why people buy white side-wall tires."

T-Boe: "Why?"

Bill: "To put on their cars!"

FRENCH IS HARD for many students this year, and it's just as hopeless for many of them. Carolyn Miller took the cake the other day by reading a sentence of SANS FAMILLE as: "He started chewing on the herbs."

The book said, "He stretched out on the grass."

(See what we mean?)

BETTIE GANTT WAS really having a difficult time the other day as she tried in vain, it seemed, to escape from the back seat of Mona Crotts' car. A huge mirror was keeping her company as well as causing the main difficulty. Finally a helping hand came along.

Carolyn Miller inquired, "Why were you in the car so long?"

Bettie: "I couldn't get out! What would you do with a fifty pound mirror on top of you?"

Carolyn: "I don't know."

"Here's how it goes," explained Bettie, "I decided that if I had to look at myself the rest of the afternoon, the mirror or I would crack up. I would probably have cracked up first, so I shouted for help."

ROBERT SHAVER SEEMS to have a crush on Marilyn Monroe; she's on his mind, and in his music. The other day he remarked, "I wish Marilyn Monroe would come here and give a program."

Ann Walter: "She can't sing. She can't dance. What would she do?"

Robert: "Are you kidding?"

WHILE DISCUSSING A Christmas party, they were wondering about gifts when this little conversation took place.

"What kind of presents should we bring to our Christmas party?" questioned Jimmy Griffin as he pondered thoughtfully.

"I know!" exclaimed Jimmy Brown. "Why don't we bring white elephants?"

"Well, okay," sighed Jimmy Griffin, "but I don't know where in the world I'll get one."

MISS BANKETT'S CLASS was discussing color blindness the other day in class.

All at once Jimmie Leonard exclaimed, "I'd hate to be color blind. Just think, I might marry a colored woman!"

JEANETTE DENNIS: "OH, I love boys so much!"

Mary Louise Helms: "Why?"

Jeanette: "They're all males!"

JUDY WHITLEY WAS talking to Martha Rae Harris the other day in English when she said, "Martha, I'm mad at you; I waved and waved at you yesterday, and you didn't wave back."

Martha: "Where did you see me?"

Judy replied solemnly: "On television."

WHEN MRS. DEESE translated a French sentence as "How did you find yourself?" Bill Huckabee impishly replied, "Oh, I just looked in the closet and there I was!"

Christmas Play To Be Presented By Black Masque

A three-act Christmas play, "The Christmas Miracle," will be presented by the Black Masque in assembly this afternoon.

The story is about Melody Ann Martin, who is recovering from polio. On Melody's wedding day she has to postpone her wedding because her fiance, Jim, has been sent overseas. Melody has complete faith that God will protect Jim as well as restore her to perfect health. In a dramatic climax Melody's faith is rewarded.

Members of the cast are as follows: Melody Ann Martin, a young woman recovering from polio, Carolyn Williams; Mrs. John Martin, Melody's mother, Bernice Roscoe; Private James Lyons, Melody's fiance, Jimmy Millican; Sergeant Ted Holmes, a young soldier, J. C. Boone; Holly Mills, young neighbor, Barbara Holt; Mrs. Mills, Holly's mother, Mona Rae Crotts; Chaplain Howard Williams, a friend of Jim.

Miss Inez Bankett, sponsor of the Black Masque Club, and Miss Jean Abrahamson will be the directors of the play.

Staff Approves Dummy Of Annual

A dummy of the '53 Crossroads was received Monday, December 8 from the Delmar Studios in Charlotte.

A representative from Charlotte brought the dummy layout for the '53 Crossroads and presented it to the staff for their approval. The staff was well pleased with most of the layout, but a few minor changes were made.

The representative also brought samples of colors and materials to be used for a cover. After much discussion the color and material were decided upon.

Many group pictures are to be made in the next few weeks.

Mrs. Coble Leaves Home Ec Position

Lost — one member of the faculty! Mrs. Warren Coble, home-economics teacher at A. H. S., resigned her post at Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Paul McAdams has been substituting for her, but after Christmas her replacement will take over.

Mrs. Wanda Sams, former teacher at Marshall and now Home Demonstration Agent for Mitchell County, will move here and finish out the year.

The F. H. A., which was sponsored by Mrs. Coble, has planned programs for the remainder of the year and is preparing to carry on alone.

Charles McManus Winner In County

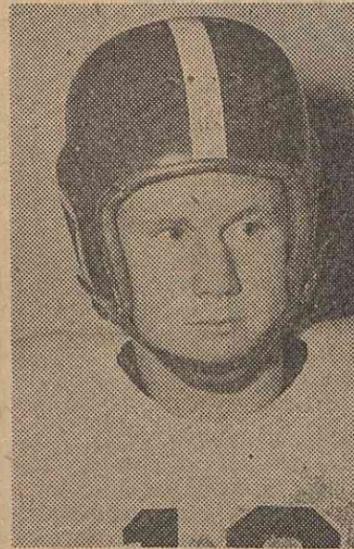
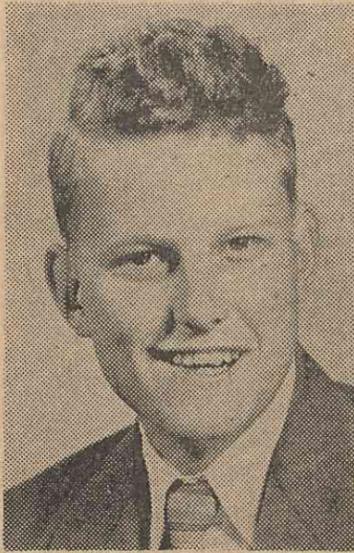
Charles Ray McManus, a senior at Albemarle High School, won out in the finals of the Stanly County Junior Chamber of Commerce contest. The title of Charles' speech was "Why I Speak for Democracy." A recording was made of the speech, which will be sent to the state contest. It will be entered against other competition there.

A prize of a \$25 dollar war bond was awarded to Charles.

Larry Hartsell, a junior at Albemarle High School, was the other contestant representing AHS in the county contest.

Mrs. Lyke has returned to AHS after a prolonged illness. Everyone, especially the biology students, is glad to see her back.

Mr. Cashwell recently attended the Professional Service Committee meeting for NCEA. He also attended the meeting of city principals in Greensboro.



OUTSTANDING SENIORS: Top row, Charles McManus, winner of Jaycee contest; Martha Harris, Carrousel princess; bottom row, Carolyn Williams, DAR Good Citizen; David Bruton, Shrine team.

Red Cross Chest Is Being Prepared For Overseas

Contest Won By English Students

Mrs. N. A. Hayes and her English classes have won a five-dollar prize for entering the contest in the recent issue of *Practical English*. The contest was entitled "Why We Like *Practical English Magazine*."

Mrs. Hayes got the reaction from one of her classes and they entered the contest in letter form.

This was a national contest and the prizes were as follows: five first places, and ten honorable mentions. Albemarle and China Grove were the only schools in this area to win an award in the contest.

Mrs. Hayes stated that this is the first year A. H. S. has used the *Practical English* magazine.

High school students have contributed enough money to send a Red Cross chest overseas. The amount needed was \$150.

The chest will be made by the Shop students, under Mr. Morris's direction, and will be packed by the Red Cross Council.

It will be on display in the lobby after Christmas so that the students can see what their money has bought.

Every homeroom has a Red Cross representative that attends the meetings and reports the information to the students in his homeroom.

Each child was requested to bring twenty-five cents, but any donation was welcomed.

This summer, Marilyn Greene attended a special camp to study about Red Cross work and is chairman of this organization.

Sunshine Or Snow - It's Christmas

During the Christmas season, when the thoughts of the civilized world turn to Bethlehem, many will wonder how the people of other countries keep this greatest religious holiday. The Christmas celebration in the United States is quite different in comparison to the activities of the season in other countries. Swimming parties are being planned for Christmas in Singapore, Australia and South America, while the United States, France, Spain, Bethlehem, Switzerland, and Romania are looking for snow.

The custom of making presents is derived from an ancient custom. Outside Teutonic countries Christmas presents are unknown, but here they have become consecrated by ages, and help to make this festival an interesting family event.

The spirit of giving is carried on throughout the world, but in

many different ways and manners. Santa Claus comes to see us, but others have St. Nickolas, the three Wise Men and the shepherds. They all bring gifts to the little children, making them happy and giving them the spirit of Christmas.

The sending of a friendly greeting and remembrance by way of a card has grown up since 1860. On the other hand, the Christmas tree has been traced back to the Romans. It went from Germany to Great Britain and is today a tradition in the United States.

Whatever form the Christmas entertainment takes, it must be free from formality. There must be plenty of good cheer and fun; the day is one of rejoicing. For generations it has been customary to play favorite old games on this day and to make merry with one's family and friends.

Annual Concert Given By Chorus

Myers Park Group Joins A.H.S. For Christmas Clinic

A one-hundred-voice choir made up of forty students from Myers Park, Charlotte, and sixty from Albemarle High School presented the annual Christmas Concert of the Mixed Chorus on Tuesday, December 16.

Early on Tuesday morning the Myers Park Choir arrived at A. H. S. with their director, Carl Cronstedt. They were registered by members of the local choir and then proceeded to the auditorium, where welcomes and plans for the day were presented.

Three rehearsals were held during the day. The visitors had lunch in the cafeteria and after lunch, recreation in the Student Lounge.

After school, members of the A. H. S. choir took the Myers Park students home, where they remained for supper. At 7:30 they returned to the school for the concert, which was scheduled for eight o'clock.

The program was divided into five groups. Included in the first group were "Fanfare For Christmas Day," "O, Come All Ye Faithful," "We Three Kings" and "Luther's Cradle Hymn." "Joy to The World," "Christmas Candle," "Today, There Is Ringing," and "Go Tell It On The Mountain," made up the second group.

In the third group were "Angels We Have Heard On High," "Deck The Halls," "We Wish You A Merry Christmas," and "White Christmas."

The fourth group consisted of, "Christmas Hymn," "I Wonder As I Wander," "Carol of the Bells," and "Silent Night."

Solos by four members of the A.H.S. choir and by Nancy Sosoman of Myers Park made up the fifth and final group.

Mr. Cronstedt and Mr. Fry alternated as director, and accompanists were from Charlotte and Albemarle choirs.

Stage decorations and lights were of a Christmas motif and planned and arranged by a group of Albemarle choir members.

Various student committees worked on different phases of the clinic, such as stage decoration, favors, party, refreshment, and supper committees.

A party was held in the Student Lounge after the Concert for members of both choirs.

Officers for the Albemarle High School Choir are as follows: president, James Gibson; vice president, Larry Tucker; secretary, Marilyn Greene; treasurer, J. C. Boone.

Parents, friends, and citizens of Albemarle attended this concert, and a small admission was charged to cover expenses.

By Their Words

"I've got to get me some glasses—been reading too many books."—Eddie Hatley.

"I'm certainly glad that I'm not fat."—Mr. Fry, helping himself to candy that weight-conscious girls were refusing.

"Throw up the window." — Mrs. Deese.

"My grandmother was a young girl during the Civil War, so was my grandfather."—R. C. Hatley.

"If you folks are cold, come over and sit by the radiator. Of course, the radiator's cold too."—Coach Webb.

"Bring your books to class tomorrow, if you can find them. If you can't find them don't bring them."—R. C. Hatley.

"I can't go to sleep at night until I decide what I'm going to dream about."—James Gibson.

"I had the one-a-day flu." — Bettie Gantt.